

REMARKS

The undersigned attorney appreciates the telephone interview granted by Examiner Zimmerman on February 16, 2005.

During the interview, the undersigned attorney stressed a distinction of the pending claims over the cited references (U.S. patents nos. 5,410,326 – Goldstein and 6,510,209 – Cannon et al.) that was not mentioned in the Office Action rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). When the data received by the remote control corresponds to data of a signal protocol maintained within the remote control memory for one of the plurality of electronic devices, the received data updates or replaces the data for the signal protocol of that one electronic device. But when the data does not so correspond, then the remote control sends a desist command. In this way, data for communicating with electronic devices not being used are not unnecessarily accumulated in the remote control memory.

The Examiner pointed out that the cited Goldstein patent discusses (col. 12, lns. 26-34) that the remote control receives advertising messages, an operating system, infrared codes for operating various electronic devices, and data of other information. But the Goldstein patent does not suggest distinguishing between infrared codes for different electronic devices, and then refusing data for electronic devices not already operated by the remote control.

The Examiner appeared to agree that this feature was not disclosed by the cited references but thought that the claim could be amended to recite this distinction more clearly. As a result, claim 19 is being amended in the manner discussed with the Examiner. This amendment is not believed to alter the scope of claim 19.


Therefore, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and an early indication of its allowance is solicited. However, if the Examiner has any further matters

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that need to be resolved, a telephone call to the undersigned attorney at 415-318-1163 would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date

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